

Dear Jim,

12/11/78

Lil read and enjoyed your 12/6 while I had to take in the skull-numbness of the House assassins. I've just been delighted by it while she prepares supper, mostly salad and some leftovers. I'm redeveloping the Dave Wrono problem. Scale yesterday disclosed that in the past month've put about 5 lbs on and have to waste them slowly.

You refer to your serving wine and cheese and sponsorship by a beer company. Are you aware of the recent scientific work that is another major breakthrough of science? (Confirms what our grandparents knew without PhDs.) For the elderly and for the ill moderate alcohol intake is excellent medication and the best psychological therapy. If you have not and are interested let us know and we'll copy that piece. (Not doing it unbidden now because Lil got behind by the typing of another affidavit, just completed, and after supper I must re-read to get executed in a.m.)

Your beer company might appreciate knowing that the work with which I'm familiar began in England with you-know-what, what they sell. This work, and I don't follow such things and am not limiting, was proven to be good for the circulation. Of blood as well as beer. Year or more ago I heard a radio item attributed to Lancet.

Years ago a Viennese doctor told me to use wine as a tranquilizer. I rarely take a tranquilizer any more despite chronic anxiety and I'm limited to about four stout drinks a day. In fact I'm to have 3-4 to balance with the thinning qualities of the warfarin and must be precise at blood-testing time. With me it works so well the nurse raves about the balance when she gives me the word after the blood test results.

Your Wrono story is magnificent and the telling superb. Great after the horror of having to listen to the assassins. I did relieve that some by outside work during the lunch break and firewood work after the end of the broadcast.

Elaine will get good at it, a break for Dave and the kids. (By the way, Mike Maio thanked you for the greeting and remembering him some time ago. Forgot to tell you.) Probably Elaine has been scheming something like what she pulled on you since confronted her with a similar problem end 1976. I then sent her an efficient slow cooker with Lil works new wonders and understand now Elaine does also. They'd put up with me for a week.

The day you wrote and commented on the weather, how mild it is here, I was going around as close to barefooted as the 'obst supports permit. That mild. Even the chiggers returned! I learned the itchy way. But they're gone again. Down to 20, with strong winds.

After I wrote I heard from Christian. He said he'd be sending the book and did. Came today. We'll copy inscription. I asked him what I asked you to ask Turner. While I doubt you'll need or want his detachment address, the label was loose and is enclosed.

There is interest in Lane and Jonesville. Today's Newsweek is to have a piece. The Post had been after Lardner, who was reluctant. But he called me from Memphis over the weekend for leads and contacts. I told him wrong city but gave him names of those who might be able to help if only second-hand.

There has been no local reference to CIA, as you report from your papers. But what you say about location, etc., sure sounds like what interests them.

I'm keeping all the stories for Dave, who has a Lane file and interest and raved about what you gave him and the sensational condition of it, by the way. Meanwhile I'm also serving others on this. No initiatives. Maybe he won't get it this time. As I told Lardner, if I didn't tell you about it, from my observation Lane is one who, if he fell in an undercleaned barnyard would get up with a monopoly on fertilizer. Incredible what he has gotten away with.

I've never paid much attention to the off-beat religions - but if you are going to plow a field why not one already fertilized?

Good thing those well-heeled matrons are thinking up things for you to do - and that they are possible. I suspect your Hospice out there is pioneering and is copied in an exceptionally worthwhile endeavor.

Thanks and best,